



TUCKER

SUN Sportlight

By Jimmy Tucker

Sports Editor

THE GAP between the abilities of Annandale and Falls Church football teams is squeezed a bit. How much? It's down to seven points, with Annandale holding the edge.

Annandale is a better ball club than its shabby showing at George Washington indicated, and Falls Church is definitely improved. This year, it appears that losing to GW sacrifices less dignity than in recent autumns.

WAKEFIELD is six points better than Stuart, with offense holding the key. The Warriors can move the ball, if they hold on to it.

Yardage has been a difficult product for the Raiders to buy this year.

LEE GETS a shaky, 3 - point nod over Groveton, with the Tigers' aches and pains tipping the scale.

The Lancers have class, and could have beaten Mount Vernon. Groveton could well make a liar out of me, though.

MOUNT VERNON will have trouble, but comes up seven points better than a Hammond team which coy Tip Downing insists is weak.

Whether Tip likes it or not, he's an able coach who has bunched a group who claim the respect of all opponents. His passing game could upend the defending champions.

GEORGE WASHINGTON is 14 points better than Osbourn, although the dangerous passing of the Yellowjackets deserves some grim respect from the Presidents.

GW figured to be a better bunch than Osbourn in August, but the speed and power that rocked Annandale is too much for Osbourn.

Woodson beats Edison by six in a match of two new schools. Woodson has a slight edge in experience. Edison's team, with a starting unit

containing five who never played any kind of football before last Saturday's loss to Marshall, still has a lot of mistakes to make. Woodson will make a dab less mistakes.

GEORGE MASON'S busting single - wing is seven points better than Marshall, although the Statesmen have an edge in maturity, according to Mustang coach Joe Crain.

Still, the Mustangs have grown up with their bulldozing offense, while the new Marshall team could use a program for identifying each other.

FAIRFAX'S hungry Rebels, who played Washington - Lee on more even terms than the 21-6 defeat indicated, will beat Madison by six.

Here's a game that could find big scores rolling up either way, but Madison can do it only with help from Fairfax. The Rebels will have to oblige the Warhawks with mistakes to lose it, and Dick Claypool may not like that.

ON A HUNCH that some of the McLean gridders may get healthy somewhere around 2 p.m. Saturday, the foggy crystal ball picks the Highlanders to spank Yorktown by 13.

McLean has power, displayed when Groveton submitted to the Highlanders after spanking Yorktown.

WASHINGTON-LEE defeats Patrick Henry by 14 down in Roanoke. With all respect to those fans who chant "give me victory or give me death," the hearse is ready.

Patrick Henry, a new school with its first senior class, does command respect after beating ivy - hung Roanoke rival, Jefferson Senior, a week ago. Patrick Henry lost its opener to powerful Salem.